

Unfinished Journal of Father Jacques Marquette,
addressed to the Reverend Father Claude
Dablon, superior of the Missions.

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MY REVEREND FATHER,
Pax Christi.

Having been compelled to remain at st. Francois throughout the summer on account of an ailment, of which I was cured in the month of september, I awaited there the return of our people from down below, in order to learn what I was to do with regard to my wintering. They brought me orders to proceed to the mission of la Conception among the Illinois. After complying with Your Reverence's request for copies of my journal concerning the missisipi River, I departed with Pierre Porteret and Jacque [*blank space in MS.*], on the 25th of october, 1674, about noon. The wind compelled us to pass the night at the outlet of the River, where the Poutewatamis were assembling; for the elders would not allow them to go in the direction of the Illinois, lest the young men, after collecting robes with the goods that they brought from below, and after hunting Beaver, might seek to go down in the spring; because they have reason to fear the nadouessi.

On passing the village, we found only two cabins of savages, who were going to spend the winter at la gasparde. We learned that 5 canoes of Poutewatamis, and 4 of Illinois, had started to go to the Kaskaskia.

26th of
october.